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Optical Dilatometry Measurements for the Quantification of Sustainable Aviation Fuel Materials Compatibility

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Optical Dilatometry Measurements for the Quantification of Sustainable Aviation Fuel Materials Compatibility



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Research Objective: To develop methods to screen candidate sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) materials compatibility at an early stage of the approval process.

Motivation

- SAFs offer a near-term opportunity to reduce aviation's greenhouse gas emissions¹
- Currently approved SAFs are not 100% drop-in, largely due to materials compatibility issues²

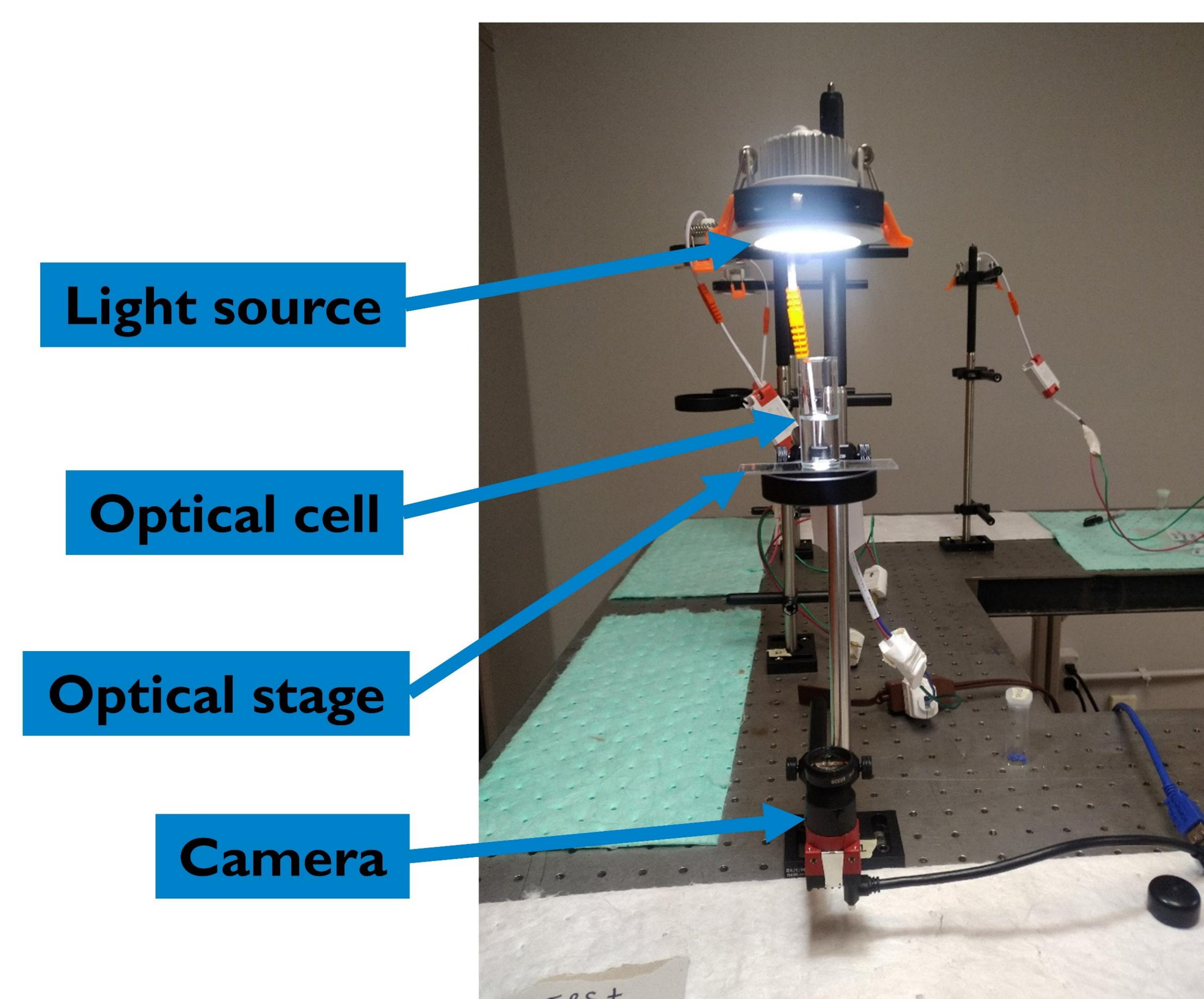


UN Sustainable Development Goals

- 7.A** Facilitate access to clean energy research and technology...
- 12.2** By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

Methodology

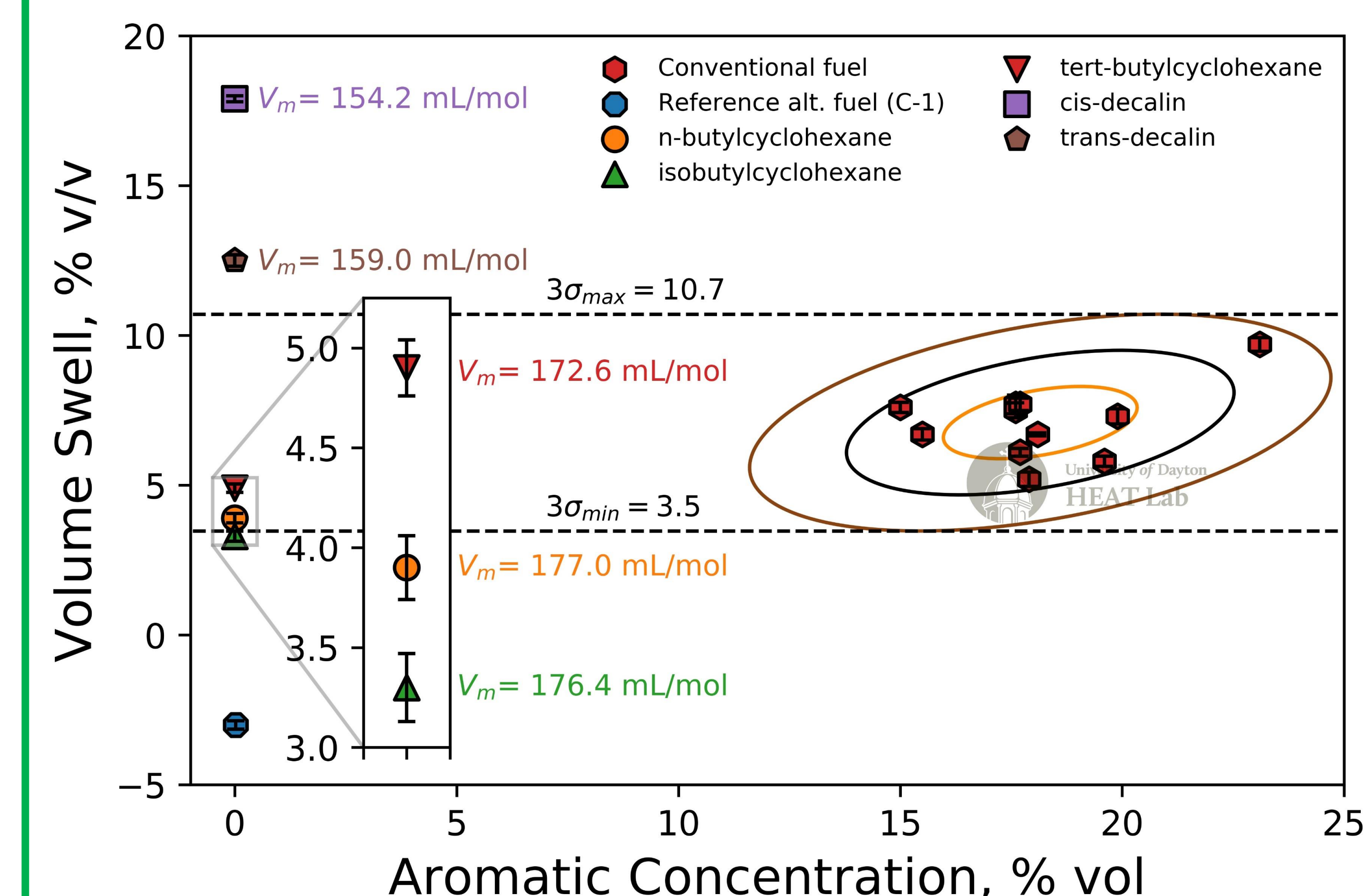
- O-ring volume swell was measured with optical dilatometers
- Volume swell data was coupled with GCxGC³ to predict volume swell



Optical dilatometer used in this study

Results

- A neural network predicted volume swell with a mean absolute error of 30% of the mean value
- High-swelling compounds may affect predictions



Conclusions & Next Steps

- Model developed to predict swell from GCxGC species-class concentration measurements with <1mL of fuel
- Add to swell/GCxGC training set to improve model accuracy

References

- Jong S et al., "Life-cycle analysis of greenhouse gas emissions from renewable jet fuel production", *Biotechnology for Biofuels*, vol. 10, 2017.
- ASTM D7566, ASTM International.
- Yang Z et al., "A GCxGC Tier α combustor operability prescreening method for sustainable aviation fuel candidates", *Fuel*, vol. 292, 2021.